

MANITOWOC COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

The Manitowoc County Human Services Department Board met at 4:48 p.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2021 in open session at the Manitowoc County Human Services Department, 801 Jay Street, Manitowoc, WI. The meeting was also accessible electronically by Zoom.

Board Members Present: Henrickson, Burke, Cavanaugh, Shimulunas, Ruggirello

Board Members Attending by Zoom: Agnew, Williams

Board Members Attending by Phone:

Board Members Excused: Baumann

Board Members Absent: Nasep

County Board Members Present: None

County Staff Present: Randolph, Joas, Kubec, Dodge, Ziegelbauer

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY BURKE, SECONDED BY WILLIAMS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

EDUCATION TOPIC: Substance Abuse Prevention Program – Annie Short, Director, Northeastern Wisconsin Area Health Education Center.

Annie Short introduced herself, passed out information and said thank you for the County Prevention Dollars, they are well spent.

This past year their main focus was to reduce access to alcohol and drugs to youth. Before Covid there was a huge surge in vape products, even youth using in school, would like to see if that continued. With Covid couldn't do as much in-person work as we planned.

This past year we did a "Small Talks" media campaign (trying to support parents) to make sure kids didn't have unsupervised access to alcohol. Our Facebook page has 700 members, we had 2 billboards, and also had ads on streaming services, and direct e-mail marketing targeting adults 25-49 (parent population).

The "Dose of Reality" campaign started a few years ago and was geared towards older people to lock up meds. This year we tried to reach more people and handed out Dispose RX packets and information on drop boxes at food distribution sites and meals on wheels. We receive state money and two years ago started with disposal kits and lock boxes to nursing homes. Also feel doctor's offices are doing so much better in the last couple of years on giving out information on not getting addicted.

This summer they are handing out festival tool kits to cities on how to have alcohol safe events. There are ID scanners, and wrist bands to give to those over age 21.

There is also a new product Delta 8 (it does not have the full content of marijuana but higher content than a CBD product) that just came out in the state, mostly at gas stations. They are gummy bears, oil or other products that have very little regulations, there are no laws on age to buy. The packaging looks like candy. We would like to let parents know about it so it doesn't get in the hands of kids. It can also be smoked in a vape, so parents should be aware of what their kids are using.

Their mission is to increase Healthiest Manitowoc County and the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.

FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORTS THROUGH APRIL, 2021:

The biggest growth is in the number of kids in out-of-home care. We don't have enough foster homes. We do use some group homes out of the county. We are adding positions in CCS as we have 59 kids on a wait-list. The State requires no wait list for the Children's Waiver Program. The new CLTS position has been approved and is posted, the APS position was also approved.

We are currently projecting an \$88,000 deficit to the original budget. The deficit is due to the number of kids in care, and how long they are in care. We didn't budget as much for group home placements as we are using.

QUESTIONS AND INPUT FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON THE STATUS OF THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

A board member complimented Nancy Randolph on a recent Herald Times article regarding Foster Care. He also read about the Production Farm, it was very interesting. There was a question on how they help the youth. Our facilitators set up goals and the kids spend time at the Production Farm learning living skills and work on individual goals for each child. We recently contracted for a summer camp – 1 day a week with transportation included.

There was also a question on the Drug Court in Manitowoc compared to Green Bay – do many people drop out. Our program is generally 90-120 days and we don't have many drop outs, there are relapses but many people get back into the program. Our Drug Court has about an 88% graduation rate. Brown County had a drug court long before us and we went there to get ideas to get ours set up.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF AGENCY OPERATIONS: PATRICIA DODGE

We had received a grant last year for a jail counselor/case manager position that was situated at the jail and the jail contracted for nurse/psych services. This year the jail will administer the grant and the position will be through them. They will discharge and enroll people in our programs.

The other Boards are ending Zoom meetings. Do we want to go to all in-person meetings also? By request, we will continue June by Zoom, no meeting in July and in August start back to in-person meetings.

The Public Participation Process is required to get public input regarding next year's budget. We would have the public hearing right before the board meeting. We will get information on the June agenda about the Public Hearing to be held in August.

We have offered positions to two CCS facilitators and the Clinical Case Manager. We will be using two casual positions for transportation aides for family/home visits for now to see how it goes. Still looking for CCS Supervisor, CLTS and APS positions.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Human Services Department Board will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 4:45 p.m. The meeting will be held in the 8th Street building at 801 Jay Street. Access will also be available remotely by Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY BURKE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT BOARD AT 5:38 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.